



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **WEBB CITY MAN INDICTED FOR ARSON**

**SPRINGFIELD, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Webb City, Mo., man was indicted by a federal grand jury today for destroying his business, Coin Op, in an arson fire.

**Keith Erwin McBride**, 51, of Webb City, was charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Springfield. Today's indictment replaces a federal criminal complaint that was filed against **McBride** on April 20, 2005.

**McBride** is the owner of Coin Op, Inc., which engages in interstate commerce by leasing amusement machines to various businesses in Missouri, Oklahoma, Kansas and Arkansas. It is also a retail sales outlet for pool tables.

The federal indictment alleges that **McBride** destroyed, by means of fire, the building housing Coin Op, Inc., at 302 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street in Webb City, as well as personal property consisting of amusement and video machines and pool tables stored in that building.

According to an affidavit filed in support of the original criminal complaint, both **McBride's** business and residence (in Duenweg, Mo.) were destroyed by fire on the morning of April 14, 2005. Coin Op was housed in a large commercial building that included office, retail sales, and storage space. Several firefighters were injured while working to extinguish the fire, the affidavit says, and had to be transported to a local hospital and treated for burns and other injuries.

**McBride** was arrested later that day, following a police stand-off at a warehouse that lasted for several hours. The stand-off ensued when **McBride** displayed a .45-caliber semi-automatic pistol and threatened to kill himself, the affidavit says. After several hours of negotiation with no progress, the affidavit says, law enforcement authorities used tear gas to take **McBride** into custody.

Graves cautioned that the charge contained in the indictment is simply an accusation, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charge must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This case is being prosecuted by Deputy U.S. Attorney Michael A. Jones. It was investigated by the Webb City, Mo., Police Department, the Missouri State Fire Marshal's Office, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at  
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